



**Watershed Stewards Project**

**Farallones Marine Sanctuary**

**Association Handbook**

Date Updated: July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012

# **Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association**

## **Site Handbook**



Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association  
991 Marine Drive, The Presidio  
San Francisco, CA 94129  
415-561-6625 (x308 or x310)

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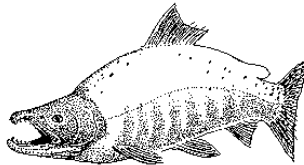
**Watershed Stewards Project**





## **Watershed Stewards Project Mission**

The mission of the AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Project is to conserve, restore, and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high quality scientific practices.



*Sockeye Salmon*



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## Introduction

### Site Description

*Location*

The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association (FMSA) office is located in the Historic Coast Guard Building along the waterfront of Crissy Field in the Presidio in San Francisco. Field sites for watershed assessment will be the 1) Redwood Creek Watershed (in Marin) in conjunction with Naomi LeBeau, Community Programs Manager of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy as well and 2) various San Mateo coastal watersheds in and around Half Moon Bay in conjunction with Kellyx Nelson of the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District.

*Agency  
Affiliation*

The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association (FMSA) —is the only non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary's wildlife and habitats through the development of a diverse community of informed and active ocean stewards. We collaborate closely with the sanctuary staff and coordinate and sponsor programming and initiatives that ensure the sanctuary is protected. From education to research and volunteer programming, we work to build a concerned and aware public network to promote this goal. Through our two watershed assessment partners, Naomi LeBeau and Kellyx Nelson, we ensure that our watershed work addresses critical issues that affect anadromous fish populations that are linked to the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

*General  
Ecology*

**FMSA:** The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association (FMSA) office is located in the Historic Coast Guard Building along the waterfront of Crissy Field. The office has views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island, and downtown San Francisco and the site includes a pier classroom for educational programming such as salmon dissections, plankton labs, squid print making, as well as research presentations on subjects such as deep sea corals and white shark tagging studies.

**Redwood Creek:** Located at the mouth of the Redwood Creek Watershed at Muir Beach, this 46-acre project site was the most disturbed area of the Redwood Creek Watershed. More than a century of landscape modifications for agriculture, recreation, and construction had filled the creek bed with sediment, altering fish habitat in the tidal lagoon. This landscape-level restoration project is designed to bring back natural function to the creek, freshwater wetlands, intermittent tidal lagoon, and dunes. This multi-phase project aims to improve habitat for endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead trout, maintain habitat for threatened California red-legged frogs, decrease flooding on nearby roads, and create a self-sustaining ecosystem that requires minimal future intervention. Close to 20,000 native wetland and upland plants—grown at the nearby Redwood Creek Nursery—are planted by school, community, and corporate groups each year. These native plant communities will help prevent further erosion and create important habitat for native wildlife.

**San Mateo Coastal Sites:** Located in the midst of a burgeoning population of nearly 8 million people in the greater San Francisco Bay Area, the SMC RCD primarily serves the coastal portion of the county- over 157,000 acres of rural, agricultural, and open space lands as well as subdivisions, including all watersheds in the county that drain into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Established in 1939, it is one of the oldest environmental organizations in the county and was the first such district in California. The SMC RCD plays a key role in conservation planning in the region, including the development of integrated watershed management plans and strategies to reduce water pollution in creeks and in Pillar Point Harbor.  
[http://sanmateorcd.org/about.html#Some\\_current\\_projects](http://sanmateorcd.org/about.html#Some_current_projects) for current projects.



**Mentor Bios:**

**Justin Holl – Gulf of Farallones Visitor Center Manager, NOAA**

Justin oversees the Sanctuary Visitor Center education programs, exhibits, and saltwater aquaria. Since graduating from Stanford University with a BS and Masters Degree in Earth Systems, Justin has worked as a Geologist studying coastal erosion for the United States Geological Survey, as Publications Coordinator for Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve and as the Co-Coordinator of Outreach for Estación Costera de Investigaciones Marinas, a marine laboratory in central Chile.

**Naomi LeBeau – Community Programs Manager, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy**

With her first field job as a seasonal biological technician working in the heat of the southeast U.S., Naomi fell in love with working outdoors and learning about the natural world. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation from the University of Florida, she made her way to San Francisco where she worked as a Propagation Intern for the Presidio Native Plant Nursery. Collaborating with nursery volunteers from all backgrounds and ages to do good work outdoors and make a difference – what a galvanizing experience! Since her internship she has worked with many wonderful organizations including Tree Frog Treks as an after school hands-on science teacher; Friends of the Urban Forest as a Planting Manager organizing community tree planting events; and the National Parks Service as a seasonal Biological Technician working on Fire Effects research in Point Reyes National Seashore and other national parks. Naomi joined the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy in fall 2011 as the Marin Community Program Manager. Her smiling face can be found stewarding the various habitats around Muir Beach and Dias Ridge trail.

**Kellyx Nelson – Executive Director, San Mateo County Resource Conservation District**

Kellyx has worked over 20 years with private and public agencies in conservation planning, program and project development and implementation, environmental education, conservation finance, community outreach, and resolving conflicts between growth and conservation. She holds a bachelor's degree from Columbia University in Political Science and Environmental Science and a master's degree in Public Policy from the University of California Berkeley.



## General Calendar of Duties at the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association

The division of an average work week will be the following:

Two days per week (Tuesday, Thursday) conducting watershed assessment work with the SMRCD.

One day per week (Friday) conducting watershed assessment work with the GGNPC at Muir Beach.

Two days per week (Wednesday and *either* Saturday or Sunday) conducting programs with FMSA.

Month	Location	Site Duties	Work Load	Typical Work Hours
<b>Fall</b>				
October	Field / Office / Classroom	WSP Orientation, Visitor Center (VC) Training, Field Site Training and Watershed Assessment Work.	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
November	Field / Office / Classroom	Visitor Center Training, Salmon Specific Education Programs, Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
<b>Winter</b>				
December	Field / Office / Classroom	Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work Salmon Specific Education Programs,	Moderate	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
January	Field / Office / Classroom	Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work Salmon Specific Education Programs,	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
February	Field / Office / Classroom	Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work Salmon Specific Education Programs,	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
<b>Spring</b>				
March	Field / Office / Classroom	Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work Salmon Specific Education Programs,	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
April	Field / Office / Classroom	Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work, Salmon Specific Education Programs, ISP, Real Science	Very Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
May	Field / Office / Classroom	Stream Surveys, Plant Restoration Work, Salmon Specific Education Programs, Real Science	Very Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
<b>Summer</b>				
June	Field / Office / Classroom	Invasive plant control; plant identification; leading volunteers of all ages in field activities; hosting youth groups on site tours and field activities	Moderate	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
July	Field / Office / Classroom	Invasive plant control; plant identification; leading volunteers of all ages in field activities; hosting youth groups on site tours and field activities,	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.

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August	Field / Office / Classroom	Invasive plant control; plant identification; leading volunteers of all ages in field activities; hosting youth groups on site tours and field activities	Busy	8 hour days; 5 days/week Tues – Fri + either Sat. or Sun.
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## Description of Site Duties

*Watershed  
Assessment in  
Partnership with  
the National  
Park Service  
(GGNRA) and  
the Golden Gate  
Parks  
Conservancy*

FMSA has established partnerships with the GGNPC/NPS restoration effort at Big Lagoon and Redwood Creek near Muir Woods as well as at various watersheds along the San Mateo County coast in partnership with the SMRCD. The work will include restoration (invasive plant control, planting of natives) as well as stream surveys and monitoring. Watershed assessment will be lead by Naomi LeBeau at Redwood Creek and by Kellyx Nelson along the San Mateo County coast. Education programming will be lead by Justin Holl.

*Environmental  
Education (Real  
Science)*

Members will participate in watershed and salmon specific programming in partnership with FMSA and GGNPC. In the past, members have been involved in all levels of our marine science public and school programming. To better align the sanctuary education goals to WSP goals, members will be restrict their education efforts to watershed and salmon related programming—a subset of the sanctuary's public programs, after school programs, at your school programs, and field trips. As an established environmental education center in San Francisco, we have strong partnerships with schools and the community.

*Visitor Center  
Outreach*

The sanctuary public programs engage the public in watershed issues through workshops, excursions, and lectures. Members will be involved in coordinating, developing, and teaching our popular public program: "Salmonopolis as well as directing visitors to our salmon related exhibits and teaching the general public about watershed issues. Members will also be ambassadors for WSP in a center that receives tens of thousands of visitors annually.

*Volunteer  
Recruitment*

Members will assist with recruitment and training of Visitor Center Volunteer Naturalists to assist with programming and staffing of the Visitor Center. Also, members will assist GGNPC by recruiting volunteers to assist with riparian restoration/revegetation and other watershed assessment activities.



## ISPs and Outreach Events

### ISP Information

*Mentor*

*Philosophy*

We believe that members should be the masterminds behind their ISP and we are here to support member efforts to the utmost of our ability. FMSA and the sanctuary have a vibrant community of staff, volunteers, and community members to draw from for volunteer events.

*Community*

FMSA and the sanctuary have a vibrant community of staff, volunteers, and community members to draw from for volunteer events.

### Outreach Information

*Programs*

In general, our philosophy is that providing a free program is the best outreach we can provide. We spend less time tabling at events and more time bringing marine specimens and art supplies into classrooms and community centers.

### Calendar of Outreach Events for Site / Community (Optional)



## Education

### Education Notes

*Projects*

As noted in the projects section, our site has a very strong education component. Members are encouraged to craft innovative, original, and hands-on programs. See above.

### Site / Region Specific Education Resources

*Pier Classroom*

Our classroom is a stunning location on Crissy Field on a pier over the water. The adjacent area is ideal for leading marine science field trips.

*Watershed models*

We have two brand new watershed models for classroom and community presentations.

*Frozen specimens*

We have a chest freezer to store frozen specimens such as Chinook salmon donated by hatcheries.

*Visitor Center aquaria and exhibits*

The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center contains cold salt water aquaria as well as exhibits on whales, sharks, seabirds, seaweed, salmon, and habitats of the sanctuary.



## Local Ecology

### Descriptions of Local Ecology

*Repeat*

*Description from*

*Above Site*

*Description*

The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association (FMSA) is located in the Historic Coast Guard Building along the waterfront of Crissy Field. The office has views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island, and downtown San Francisco and the site includes a pier classroom for educational programming such as salmon dissections, plankton labs, squid print making, as well as research presentations on subjects such as deep sea corals and white shark tagging studies. Crissy Field Beach, part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is adjacent to the office with mole crabs, polychaete worms, shorebirds, and California beach hoppers. The pier pilings are covered with seastars, barnacles, mussels, and there are Dungeness, red rock, and brown rock crabs milling about the base of the piers. Just down the beach, there is a rock wall with shorecrabs, chitons, gooseneck barnacles, and anemones. The pier is great for sighting guillemots, loons, cormorants, pelicans, grebes, and scoters. The sanctuary campus is in the Presidio of San Francisco and is inside the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



## Housing and Local Resources

### Housing Contact List

- Mentors* Free advice from SF residents Justin Holl (415) 561-6622 x308 & Peter Winch (415) 561-6625 x310 about neighborhoods and ways of navigating the search for housing. Also, we can put you in touch with past members (Rietta Hohman, Erica Warren, and Eugenia Clark) who all currently work at the Gulf of the Farallones Visitor Center.
- Presidio Housing Office* <http://www.presidio.gov/leasing/residentialleasing/livework/> The Presidio Housing Office has special live/work programs for Presidio employees.
- Craigslist SF* <http://sfbay.craigslist.org/> Some find it a little overwhelming, but a good starting point to get a feel for rents and neighborhoods.

### Local Resource Contacts

- Mentors/Sanctuary staff* Staff are very friendly and helpful. Let us know what you are looking for and we can at least steer you in the right direction. Examples: dentists, pick up ultimate games, inexpensive excellent Vietnamese food, bike shops, cheap sporting equipment, connections to boat operators that work in the sanctuary, best video shop, best bakery, best hikes in the nearby area. Opinions abound.
- Metropolis Factor* You can find pretty much anything you need.



## Community Information

### Map of Area



### Community Demographics

Wikipedia [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San\\_Francisco#Demographics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco#Demographics)

### Community Services

*Staff Can Advise* Ask us for whatever you need. San Francisco (and the greater Bay Area) has lots to offer.



## **Entertainment and Community Events**

### **Resources for Affordable Entertainment Options**

Useful places to find free and cheap stuff:

FunCheapSF list – online list of mostly free activities in the Bay.

Yelp.com – useful for restaurants and stores.

Free papers – *Guardian* and *SF Weekly*.

SCRAP – a very inexpensive source for the resourceful. <http://www.scrap-sf.org/>

### **Recurring Event List**

Annual Sanctuary Volunteer Recognition Event

Annual Sanctuary Staff Holiday Party

Opportunities to Participate in Research or Education Cruises in the Sanctuary

## **Attachments**

### **Contact Lists**

### **Ed Logs & Information**

### **ISP Logs & Information**

### **Outreach Summaries & Information**

### **Site Protocols & Information**

### **Site Forms**